

S. 2035

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2035, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to clarify the application of the Act popularly known as the "Death on the High Seas Act" to aviation incidents.

S. 2049

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CLELAND), and the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2049, a bill to extend the authorization for the Violent Crime Reduction Trust Fund.

S. 2061

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. BRYAN), and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. THURMOND) were added as cosponsors of S. 2061, a bill to establish a crime prevention and computer education initiative.

S. 2070

At the request of Mr. FITZGERALD, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) were added as cosponsors of S. 2070, a bill to improve safety standards for child restraints in motor vehicles.

S. 2072

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. L. CHAFEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2072, a bill to require the Secretary of Energy to report to Congress on the readiness of the heating oil and propane industries.

S. 2074

At the request of Mr. ASHCROFT, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. HUTCHINSON), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SANTORUM), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SMITH), and the Senator from Washington (Mr. GORTON) were added as cosponsors of S. 2074, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the social security earnings test for individuals who have attained retirement age.

At the request of Mr. LOTT, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2074, supra.

S. 2082

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2082, a bill to establish a program to award grants to improve and maintain sites honoring Presidents of the United States.

S. 2087

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from Alabama

(Mr. SHELBY), and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) were added as cosponsors of S. 2087, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to improve access to benefits under the TRICARE program; to extend and improve certain demonstration programs under the Defense Health Program; and for other purposes.

S. 2090

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2090, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose a 1 year moratorium on certain diesel fuel excise taxes.

S. 2097

At the request of Mr. GRAMM, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. THOMAS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2097, a bill to authorize loan guarantees in order to facilitate access to local television broadcast signals in unserved and underserved areas, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 85

At the request of Mr. TORRICELLI, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 85, a concurrent resolution condemning the discriminatory practices prevalent at Bob Jones University.

S. RES. 87

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 87, a resolution commemorating the 60th Anniversary of the International Visitors Program.

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 87, supra.

S. RES. 128

At the request of Mr. COCHRAN, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 128, a resolution designating March 2000, as "Arts Education Month."

S. RES. 237

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CLELAND) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 237, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the United States Senate Committee on Foreign Relations should hold hearings and the Senate should act on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).

AMENDMENT NO. 2827

At the request of Mr. COVERDELL, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK) was added as a cosponsor of Amendment No. 2827 proposed to S. 1134, an original bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow tax-free expenditures from education individual retirement accounts for elementary and secondary school expenses, to increase the maximum an-

nual amount of contributions to such accounts, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. MACK, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of Amendment No. 2827 proposed to S. 1134, An original bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow tax-free expenditures from education individual retirement accounts for elementary and secondary school expenses, to increase the maximum annual amount of contributions to such accounts, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2867

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH), the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL), and the Senator from Florida (Mr. GRAHAM) were added as cosponsors of Amendment No. 2867 proposed to S. 1134, an original bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow tax-free expenditures from education individual retirement accounts for elementary and secondary school expenses, to increase the maximum annual amount of contributions to such accounts, and for other purposes.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 88—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE CONGRESS CONCERNING DRAWDOWNS OF THE STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE

Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. JEFFORDS, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. DODD) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:

S. CON. RES. 88

Whereas the price of crude oil has more than doubled in the past year to over \$30 per barrel, and prices of petroleum products such as heating oil, diesel fuel, and gasoline have reached record levels;

Whereas a sharp sustained increase in the price of crude oil negatively affects the overall economic well-being of the United States;

Whereas high oil prices harm people and businesses;

Whereas the Energy Information Administration has determined that Northeastern United States fuel reserves are the lowest in 20 years and that Americans are "skating on thin ice" in meeting energy requirements;

Whereas the current price and supply crisis was largely created through the actions of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries ("OPEC") by market-distorting and collusive production reductions, and OPEC's activities would be in violation of United States antitrust laws if conducted within the United States;

Whereas OPEC has demonstrated unity not seen since the energy crises of the 1970's;

Whereas the United States has a Strategic Petroleum Reserve of over 570,000,000 barrels of crude oil to protect against threats to oil supplies;

Whereas many experts, trade associations, and members of Congress have called for a drawdown of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to combat OPEC's market distorting behavior;

Whereas a drawdown or the threat of a drawdown of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve could provide a critical tool to break the resolve of OPEC to practice market distorting behavior, and a sale of oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve would increase domestic supplies and drive down prices in the short term;

Whereas swaps from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve offer a way to increase the overall size of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve at no cost to the taxpayer; and

Whereas low global inventories allow OPEC to retain inordinate control over supply and pricing, and consequently undue influence over the global economy: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

SECTION 1. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) using authority under existing law, directly through time exchanges (or "swaps") or through other means, the President and the Secretary of Energy should draw down the Strategic Petroleum Reserve in an economically feasible manner and to a responsible degree, to combat unfair foreign trade practices of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries and alleviate the severely deleterious consequences to people and businesses in the United States that those practices have caused; and

(2) the President and the Secretary of Energy should prepare for future threats to the economy and energy supply of the United States by developing methods to—

(A) draw down the Strategic Petroleum Reserve quickly when needed; and

(B) increase the quantity of crude oil in the Strategic Petroleum Reserve over time in an economically reasonable manner.

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today with my colleague, Senator SCHUMER, to submit a senate concurrent resolution expressing the Sense of the Congress that the Administration should act immediately to combat the anticompetitive campaign OPEC has waged on the world's oil markets. Through this resolution, we call upon the President and the Secretary of Energy to defend America's interests through the immediate release of oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. We are pleased to be joined by Senators JEFFORDS, SNOWE, LIEBERMAN, MOYNIHAN, LEVIN, LEAHY, and DODD who are original cosponsors of this important legislation. We are also pleased to have the strong support of the American Trucking Association which represents 9.6 million people employed in the American trucking industry and their families. Perhaps no one has felt the pain for soaring oil prices more than they.

Today we ask the Administration to combat the unfair and anticompetitive practices of OPEC, and to ease the pain this cartel has inflicted—and will continue to inflict—on the people and businesses of the Northeast, the Midwest, and throughout America.

Last fall, Senator SCHUMER and I began cautioning the Administration about OPEC's production squeeze and the impact the cartel would have on our economy. At that time oil prices were rising, and U.S. inventories were falling. Throughout the winter, Mainers, New Yorkers, and all Ameri-

cans who heat with oil have suffered from the highest distillate prices in a decade. The entire nation has suffered—and will continue to suffer—through increased gasoline and diesel fuel costs.

One year ago, the average retail price of a gallon of diesel fuel was 95.6 cents. Today, prices across the nation have skyrocketed. In my home state, diesel costs range from \$1.60 in Bangor to \$1.90 in Biddeford.

This jump in prices deeply harms truckers and, by extension, all American consumers and businesses. The trucking industry consumes nearly 30 billion of gallons of diesel fuel a year. At today's prices, that means truckers across the nation must shoulder \$15 billion more in fuel costs this year, compared to last.

I have heard from small Maine trucking companies that are in dire straits. One owner of a trucking company in Ellsworth, Maine tells me that, due to particularly high fuel costs, many independent truckers she contracts with may not be able to stay in business. She says that owner-operators and small trucking companies cannot withstand the exorbitant price of diesel fuel for much longer and warns that immediate action is necessary. Potato farmers in northern Maine tell me they are having difficulty shipping their crop to market because the high cost of diesel has made it economically unfeasible to come to Aroostock County.

I was struck by a sign I saw on a rig two weeks ago when truckers converged upon Washington, demanding action from our government—it read: "if you eat it, drink or wear it, it probably got to you by truck." This catchy slogan underscores the importance of trucking to our country and our way of life.

But everyone shares in the pain inflicted by OPEC. Yesterday, a barrel of crude oil closed at \$30.43, a one hundred-fifty percent increase from one year ago. These high crude prices hurt all Americans—at the pump, on the farm, in the supermarket, at the airline ticket counter, and at home during cold winter nights.

OPEC member-countries have colluded to take some 6% of the world's supply of oil off the markets in order to maximize profits. The strategy's is working—although OPEC countries sold 5% less oil in 1999, their profits were up 38%.

OPEC's production squeeze has caused fuel reserves to shrink to historic lows. The Administrator of the Energy Information Administration—which is part of the Department of Energy—was quoted in The New York Times last week saying the fuel reserves in the Northeast were "dangerously low," the lowest in 20 years, and that American's were "skating on thin ice" due to low fuel inventories. Indeed, we were told by the Energy Information Agency that distillate stocks in New England reached an all-time low last month.

We have been disappointed that the Administration has failed to heed our call over the past several months. But even now, it is not too late. A release of oil from the SPR would have an immediate impact upon the price of oil and would help break OPEC's resolve to maintain an iron grip on our nation's supply.

So today we offer a resolution calling upon the Administration to use the tools at its disposal to fight OPEC's unfair and dangerously harmful trade practices. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, yesterday, crude prices closed just below \$32 per barrel—the highest price since a brief spike during the Persian Gulf War. At this level, it is very likely that gas prices will reach \$2 per gallon by Memorial Day.

The price of oil has reached a point where it is no longer a nuisance, but a crisis for our economy. We have called on the President and the Secretary of Energy to release some of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) in order to bring this price spike under control. And today, we are introducing a concurrent resolution to again request that the Administration use the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to bolster our rapidly dwindling oil inventories, stabilize prices, and to convince OPEC that America is ready to use leverage to protect our national economic interests.

During the past two weeks, Secretary Richardson has met with OPEC ministers to encourage them to increase production. They discussed a 1 million barrel per day increase, but according to experts, that will still not be sufficient to meet America's demand. In fact, even if OPEC increased production to 3 million barrels per day by the 4th Quarter of 2000, the U.S. will still have \$30 barrels next winter. This is because inventory levels of petroleum and petroleum products are at their lowest levels in more than 20 years. Gasoline inventories are down 15 percent from last year, and crude inventories are down 13 percent. Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development inventories are 99 million barrels below normal.

Low inventories means that OPEC will continue to control global supply and demand. Even if OPEC increases production by a small amount, it will not be sufficient to prevent them from increasing prices at any moment. This, therefore, has become a matter of national security.

The United States must use the SPR to prod OPEC to release significantly more oil. If the United States releases the reserve through swaps, other OPEC producers will realize that their stranglehold on the market is ending and will disregard their quotas, thereby releasing oil into market and forcing the price back down. That is the scenario OPEC fears the most and that is the card that we need to play to ensure a sufficient and timely increase in production. We have been warning since

September that this day would come if the United States did not play the SPR card. It is here; it is late; but it is not yet too late to avert a crisis. We need to use the leverage of the reserve.

Increased oil prices could severely affect the health of our economy. It has the potential to increase inflation. It will drain the budgets of working families. The price of shipping will increase. Oil prices at these levels will filter through every sector of our economy like a virus.

The President and Secretary Richardson must act quickly to release oil from the SPR in order to counter OPEC's assault on the United States and the global economy.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 89—TO ESTABLISH THE JOINT CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON INAUGURAL CEREMONIES FOR THE INAUGURATION OF THE PRESIDENT-ELECT AND VICE-PRESIDENT ELECT OF THE UNITED STATES ON JANUARY 20, 2001

Mr. MCCONNELL (for himself and Mr. DODD) submitted the following concurrent resolution, which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 89

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

SECTION 1. ESTABLISHMENT OF JOINT COMMITTEE.

There is established a Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies (in this resolution referred to as the "joint committee") consisting of 3 Senators and 3 Representatives, to be appointed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, respectively. The joint committee is authorized to make the necessary arrangements for the inauguration of the President-elect and Vice President-elect of the United States on January 20, 2001.

SEC. 2. SUPPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE.

The joint committee—

(1) is authorized to utilize appropriate equipment and the services of appropriate personnel of departments and agencies of the Federal Government, under arrangements between the joint committee and the heads of those departments and agencies, in connection with the inaugural proceedings and ceremonies; and

(2) may accept gifts and donations of goods and services to carry out its responsibilities.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 90—TO AUTHORIZE THE USE OF THE ROTUNDA OF THE CAPITOL BY THE JOINT CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON INAUGURAL CEREMONIES IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROCEEDINGS AND CEREMONIES CONDUCTED FOR THE INAUGURATION OF THE PRESIDENT-ELECT AND THE VICE PRESIDENT-ELECT OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MCCONNELL (for himself and Mr. DODD) submitted the following concurrent resolution, which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 90

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

SECTION 1. USE OF THE ROTUNDA OF THE CAPITOL.

The rotunda of the United States Capitol is authorized to be used on January 20, 2001, by the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies in connection with the proceedings and ceremonies conducted for the inauguration of the President-elect and the Vice President-elect of the United States.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 91—CONGRATULATING THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA ON THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REESTABLISHMENT OF ITS INDEPENDENCE FROM THE RULE OF THE FORMER SOVIET UNION

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. GORTON, Mr. LOTT, Mr. HELMS, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. ROBB, and Mr. FITZGERALD) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 91

Whereas the United States has never recognized the forcible incorporation of the Baltic states of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania into the former Soviet Union;

Whereas the declaration on March 11, 1990, of the reestablishment of full sovereignty and independence of the Republic of Lithuania led to the disintegration of the former Soviet Union;

Whereas Lithuania since then has successfully built democracy, ensured human and minority rights, the rule of law, developed a free market economy, implemented exemplary relations with neighboring countries, and consistently pursued a course of integration into the community of free and democratic nations by seeking membership in the European Union and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization; and

Whereas Lithuania, as a result of the progress of its political and economic reforms, has made, and continues to make, a significant contribution toward the maintenance of international peace and stability by, among other actions, its participation in NATO-led peacekeeping operations in Bosnia and Kosovo: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress hereby—

(1) congratulates Lithuania on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the reestablishment of its independence and the leading role it played in the disintegration of the former Soviet Union; and

(2) commends Lithuania for its success in implementing political and economic reforms, which further speed the process of that country's integration into European and Western institutions.

SENATE RESOLUTION 265—COMMENDING THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 1999 DIVISION 1-A COLLEGIATE FOOTBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. MACK (for himself and Mr. GRAHAM) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 265

Whereas Florida State University is a proud member of the Atlantic Coast Conference;

Whereas Florida State University has previously won the Division 1-A collegiate football national championship in 1993;

Whereas the students, alumni, and supporters of Florida State University are to be commended for the dedication, enthusiasm, and admiration they share for their favorite football team;

Whereas Florida State University has one of the most exciting, prolific, and successful college football programs in the country;

Whereas Florida State University's football team won the 1999 Atlantic Coast Conference championship in football and finished the season undefeated and untied with a record of 12-0;

Whereas Florida State University is to be commended for being the first Division 1-A collegiate football team to be ranked number one the entire season by the Associated Press since the preseason rankings began in 1950;

Whereas Florida State University has won 108 football games between 1990 and 1999, more than any other Division 1-A college football team in the Nation during this period;

Whereas Florida State University should be commended for extending their NCAA record streak of top-four finishes in the final Associated Press poll to 13 years in a row, the only Division 1-A college football team to have accomplished this feat;

Whereas Bobby Bowden, Florida State University's legendary head football coach, is to be commended for surpassing the 300-victory plateau this year and for obtaining his first perfect season in 40 years as a head coach;

Whereas Florida State University is to be commended for having 20 of its football players selected to the 1999 All Atlantic Coast Conference football team;

Whereas Florida State University is to be commended for having 4 of its football players honored as 1999 Consensus All-Americans;

Whereas the 1999 Florida State University football team played and beat Louisiana Tech University, 41 to 7; Georgia Tech University, 41 to 35; North Carolina State University, 42 to 11; University of North Carolina, 42 to 10; Duke University, 51 to 23; University of Miami, 31 to 21; Wake Forest University, 33 to 10; Clemson University, 17 to 14; University of Virginia, 35 to 10; University of Maryland, 49 to 10; and University of Florida, 30 to 23;

Whereas Florida State University played Virginia Tech University in the Bowl Championship Series' Nokia Sugar Bowl on January 4, 2000, for the 1999 Division 1-A collegiate football national championship;

Whereas the Virginia Tech University football team and Head Coach Frank Beamer and his staff are to be commended for an outstanding football season, winning the 1999 Big East Conference football championship and for playing in the 1999 Division 1-A collegiate football national championship game;

Whereas Florida State University beat Virginia Tech by the score of 46 to 29 before a sold-out and electrified crowd of 79,280 in the Louisiana Superdome to win the 1999 Division 1-A college football championship; and

Whereas Florida State University now joins an elite group of only 14 Division 1-A collegiate football teams out of 114 Division 1-A universities which have won at least 2 or more Division 1-A collegiate football national championships: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends Florida State University for winning the 1999 Division 1-A collegiate football national championship;